

Appl. No. 10/088,699
Amdt. dated December 2, 2003
Supplemental Response to Restriction Requirement of
October 3, 2003.

PATENT
Attorney docket number 082376-000000US

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (previously presented) A method of screening for a disorder suppressor gene or a disorder suppressor polypeptide, comprising screening for a nucleic acid or a polypeptide derived from a tissue of an organism suffering from a disorder that accompanies cell death, wherein said tissue is derived from an area affected by the disorder or from the vicinity of the affected area.

2. (previously presented) A method of screening for a disorder suppressor gene, wherein said method comprises the steps of:

(a) expressing in a cell a nucleic acid derived from a tissue of an organism suffering from a disorder that accompanies cell death, wherein said tissue is derived from an area affected by the disorder or from the vicinity of the affected area.

(b) detecting a suppressive effect on the disorder due to the expression of the nucleic acid, and,

(c) selecting the nucleic acid having the suppressive effect.

3. (previously presented) A method of screening for a disorder suppressor polypeptide or a disorder suppressor gene encoding said polypeptide, wherein said method comprises the steps of:

(a) administering to a cell (i) a polypeptide derived from a tissue of an organism suffering from a disorder that accompanies cell death, or (ii) a polypeptide encoded by a nucleic acid derived from said tissue, wherein said tissue is derived from an area affected by the disorder or from the vicinity of the affected area.

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(b) detecting a suppressive effect on the disorder due to the expression of the nucleic acid, and,

(c) selecting the nucleic acid having the suppressive effect.

4. (previously presented) The method according to any one of claims 2 or 3, comprising the step of inducing the cell death associated with said disorder before, during or after step (a), and detecting the suppressive effect on the disorder in step (b) using the suppression of cell death as an index.

5. (previously presented) A method according to any one of claims 1 to 3, wherein said disorder is a disorder of the cranial nervous system.

6. (original) The method according to claim 5, wherein said disorder of the cranial nervous system is Alzheimer's Disease.

7. (previously presented) A method according to claim 5, wherein said nucleic acid or polypeptide is derived from a tissue of the nerve or brain.

8. (previously presented) A method for testing a suppressive effect of a nucleic acid on a disorder, wherein said method comprises the steps of:

(a) expressing in a cell a nucleic acid derived from a tissue of an organism suffering from a disorder that accompanies cell death, wherein said tissue is derived from an area affected by the disorder or from the vicinity of the affected area, and,

(b) detecting the suppressive effect on the disorder due to the expression of the nucleic acid.

9. (previously presented) A method for testing a suppressive effect of a polypeptide on a disorder, wherein said method comprises the steps of:

(a) administering to a cell (i) a polypeptide derived from a tissue of an organism suffering from a disorder that accompanies cell death, or (ii) a polypeptide encoded by

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a nucleic acid derived from said tissue, wherein said tissue is derived from an area affected by the disorder or from the vicinity of the affected area, and

(b) detecting the suppressive effect on the disorder due to the administration of the polypeptide.

10. (previously presented) The method according to claim 8 or 9, comprising the step of inducing the cell death associated with said disorder before, during or after step (a), and detecting the suppressive effect on the disorder in the step (b) using the suppression of cell death as an index.

11. (previously presented) A method according to claim 8 or 9, wherein said disorder is a disorder of the cranial nervous system.

12. (original) The method according to 11, wherein said disorder of the cranial nervous system is Alzheimer's Disease.

13. (previously presented) A method according to claim 11, wherein said nucleic acid or polypeptide is derived from a tissue of the nerve or brain.